



Homeland Security

Daily Open Source Infrastructure Report for 15 September 2010

Current Nationwide Threat Level

ELEVATED

Significant Risk of Terrorist Attacks

For information, click here:
<http://www.dhs.gov>

Top Stories

- An ominous theme has emerged from the deadly pipeline explosion in California: There are thousands of aging more than 50-year-old pipes — past the normal life expectancy of steel pipes — just like it nationwide, and many experience mishaps. Federal officials have recorded 2,840 significant gas pipeline accidents since 1990, more than a third causing deaths and significant injuries. (See item [1](#))
- According to Agence France-Presse, Whistleblower Web site WikiLeaks is teaming up with news outlets to release a “massive cache” of classified U.S. military field reports on the conflict in Iraq — a leak one journalism group called the “biggest leak of military intelligence” ever — Newsweek magazine reported September 10. (See item [41](#))

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Energy Sector

Current Electricity Sector Threat Alert Levels: **Physical: ELEVATED, Cyber: ELEVATED**

Scale: LOW, GUARDED, ELEVATED, HIGH, SEVERE [Source: ISAC for the Electricity Sector (ES-ISAC) - <http://www.esisac.com>]

1. *September 14, The Associated Press* – (National) **Aging gas pipes at risk of explosion nationwide.** An ominous theme has emerged from the wreckage of a deadly pipeline

explosion in California: There are thousands of pipes just like it nationwide. The pipe was more than 50 years old — right around the life expectancy for steel pipes. It was part of a transmission line that had an “unacceptably high” risk of failure. And it was in a densely populated area. Thousands of pipelines nationwide fit the same bill, and they frequently experience mishaps. Federal officials have recorded 2,840 significant gas pipeline accidents since 1990, more than a third causing deaths and significant injuries. Utilities have been under pressure for years to better inspect and replace aging gas pipes many of them laid years before the suburbs expanded over them and now are at risk of leaking or erupting. But the effort has fallen short. Critics said the regulatory system is ripe for problems because the government leaves it up to the companies to do inspections, and utilities are reluctant to spend the money necessary to properly fix and replace decrepit pipelines.

Source: http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/39159597/ns/us_news-life/

2. *September 13, Reuters* – (California) **PG&E ordered to inspect gas pipeline after blast.** California regulators have ordered utility PG&E Corp to inspect its natural gas pipeline system following an explosion that destroyed a neighborhood in San Bruno last week, killing four people. The California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) asked PG&E to immediately conduct an integrity assessment of its natural gas pipeline system. The regulators want the utility to survey all natural gas lines, particularly those that carry gas at higher pressure and those in areas of highest population density. CPUC also plans to appoint an independent panel of experts to help its investigation. In addition to killing four, the blast, caused by a ruptured natural gas pipeline, and ensuing firestorm destroyed 37 homes and injured more than 50 people. The 30-inch steel gas transmission pipeline belongs to PG&E, which has set up a \$100 million fund to help the residents and city of San Bruno.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSTRE6890O120100913>

3. *September 13, Reuters* – (National) **Enbridge shuts 3rd pipeline, outages near 1 million bpd.** A small oil spill September 13 forced Enbridge Inc. to close an oil pipeline in New York, just four days after another leak in Illinois forced it to shut a massive Canadian crude export pipeline. The Calgary, Canada-based pipeline giant said it shut the 70,000 barrel per day (bpd) Line 10, a 91-mile pipe from Westover, Ontario, Canada into New York. The latest shutdown came after an oil spill near Buffalo, New York, which appeared tiny and was likely measurable in ounces, not gallons, a New York-based official at the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency told Reuters. There are now three U.S. stretches of Enbridge pipeline shut due to leaks, idling 930,000 barrels a day (bpd) of the company’s capacity. That is equivalent to around half the volume of Canadian oil shipped daily to the United States. Enbridge said September 13, work crews removed a damaged, 12-foot section of the largest oil pipeline linking Canada to the United States, Midwest, Line 6A, which spilled crude in Illinois September 9.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1320274720100914>

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Chemical Industry Sector

4. *September 13, Northwest Cable News* – (Washington) **Semi wreck shuts down I-90 west of Spokane in hazmat situation.** A semi carrying 3,000 pounds of caustic sodium hydroxide rolled over on Interstate 90 west of Spokane, Washington, about 5:45 a.m. September 13, completely shutting down I-90 eastbound, and forcing drivers onto a detour around the wreck. The sodium hydroxide did not leak. It was contained inside of barrels in the semi's two trailers. The male driver was trapped, but fire department crews were able to cut him out of the cab. An ambulance took the driver to Sacred Heart Medical Center, who suffered non-life-threatening injuries. The semi left the freeway, rolled and ended up on its side in the middle of I-90. The Washington State Patrol said the driver might have a medical problem before the wreck. Troopers have no witnesses. Both lanes of eastbound I-90 near Salnave Road were blocked 13 miles west of Spokane. A detour is set up for drivers at the Tyler exit and takes drivers onto highway 904 through Cheney. The freeway was expected to re-open around 11 a.m. at the earliest. Westbound lanes of I-90 are open.

Source: <http://www.nwcn.com/news/washington/Semi-wreck-shuts-down-I-90-west-of-Spokane-in-hazmat-situation-102784639.html>

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Nuclear Reactors, Materials and Waste Sector

5. *September 14, Lower Hudson Journal News* – (New York) **Indian Point 3 back online after 4-day shutdown.** Entergy Corp's 1025-megawatt Indian Point 3 nuclear power reactor in Buchanan, New York went back online September 13, ending a 4-day stretch when the plant's two reactors were shut down. Indian Point 2 remains offline following a September 3 emergency stoppage, when workers found high water levels in a steam generator. It was the first time both reactors went dark for an extended period since the blackout of 2003, when tens of millions of people in the Northeast lost power. Indian Point 3 was shut down September 9 because of a water leak inside the unit's main generator. Company officials and federal regulators said neither incident was a threat to worker or public safety, though shutting down two large generators can put a strain on the region's supply of electricity. "There have certainly been other times when both units have been down, but it doesn't happen frequently," a Nuclear Regulatory Commission spokesman said. "They stagger their refueling so that both plants aren't shut down at the same time. These are baseload plants. The operators want them online."

Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20100914/NEWS02/9140328/-1/newsfront/Indian-Point-3-back-online-after-4-day-shutdown>

6. *September 14, Arizona Republic* – (Arizona; Utah; New Mexico) **Cleanup planned for uranium sites on Indian land.** A mining company and a federal agency agreed September 13 to spend about \$2.5 million on efforts to clean up two, uranium-contaminated sites on the Navajo and Hopi reservations in the Southwestern United States, where tribal leaders have pressed the government for years to take action. The

projects at both locations represent incremental progress in a decades-long attempt to repair the environmental damage left by more than 500 Cold War-era uranium mines, most long since abandoned, across Arizona, New Mexico and Utah. The old operations, with their history of pollution-sickened residents, have become a rallying point for tribes and environmental groups opposed to new uranium mines near the Grand Canyon. Tribal officials welcomed the planned cleanup work Monday but referred to the agreements as “first steps.” At the first site, near Gallup, New Mexico, Canadian mine operator Rio Algom Mining will build fences to keep people and animals away from uranium waste and pave a road to reduce the contaminated dust tracked away from the old mine site. Work at the second site, a landfill at Tuba City, Arizona will not initially result in any on-the-ground cleanup, but it will produce by 2012 an analysis of how much uranium from mining operations has seeped into the water and ground, as well as a plan to remove the soil and other waste that pose the most serious threats to people in the area.

Source:

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/2010/09/14/20100914arizona-indian-reservations-uranium-clean-up.html>

7. *September 13, Associated Press* – (New Jersey) **Nuke plant owner to remove tritium-tainted water.** The owners of the Oyster Creek nuclear power plant in Lacey Township, New Jersey said they will begin pumping water contaminated by radioactive tritium out of the ground to prevent any possible contamination of drinking water supplies. Exelon Corp. and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced the plan after a meeting September 13 in Trenton. The work was expected to begin the week of September 13. The tritium-contaminated water leaked from pipes at the plant last year. The state DEP commissioner said none of the tainted water has been found beyond plant boundaries. Tritium is a byproduct of nuclear plant operations and has been linked to some forms of cancer. Oyster Creek is the nation’s oldest power plant. It opened in 1969.

Source: <http://www.businessweek.com/ap/financialnews/D9I79DCG4.htm>

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Critical Manufacturing Sector

8. *September 13, Grand Haven Tribune* – (Michigan) **GH factory evacuated after welder sparks fire.** Employees of Shape Corporation, of Grand Haven, Michigan were evacuated September 13 after a piece of equipment caught on fire, said an official from the Grand Haven Department of Public Safety. The fire started at 7:30 a.m. when a spark from welding machinery caught fire to some filters in a piece of equipment, he said. The fire was contained to the equipment, he said. No one was injured, and Shape employees resumed work after the factory’s ventilation system cleared out the smoke. Shape manufactures impact energy management systems, steel rollforming, and automotive bumpers.

Source: <http://www.grandhaventribune.com/paid/300447433066363.bsp>

9. *September 13, Springfield News-Sun* – (Ohio) **Fire damages west side HDI plant.** Smoke blanketed a Springfield, Ohio neighborhood September 13, when a fire erupted in a manufacturing plant for airplane parts. No one was injured and the fire was quickly contained, according to fire officials. The amount of smoke led firefighters to expect a larger blaze, the chief said. And it could have been, he added, if sprinklers at the plant hadn't kicked in, potentially saving the roughly \$25 million in equipment in the shop. The building at 663 Montgomery Avenue is owned by HDI, Inc. It was recently purchased from Eagle Tool and Machine Company. The building's 34 employees were evacuated when the fire was spotted, he said. The fire was caused by equipment in the building that shoots off hot embers and metal shavings. It was fed at one point by pressurized air that firefighters briefly worried was a gas leak. The incident is under investigation, but appears to have been an accident.
Source: <http://www.springfieldnewssun.com/news/springfield-news/fire-damages-west-side-hdi-plant-915854.html>
10. *September 13, Detroit News* – (National) **NHTSA probes F-150 fuel-tank straps.** The National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA) is investigating whether 1.4 million Ford F-150 vehicles should be recalled over concerns that fuel tank rust could pose a fire hazard. NHTSA said in a statement posted on its Web site that it has opened a preliminary investigation into 1997-2001 F-150 models after receiving 32 complaints alleging corrosion of the straps supporting the fuel tank. In 28 of the complaints, either one or both straps broke, allowing the tank to drop from the frame and either drag along the ground or completely detach from the vehicle. NHTSA said the issue could present "a fire hazard from leaking gasoline as well as an obstruction hazard to vehicles following the subject trucks." The investigation is the latest sign NHTSA is moving much quicker to open investigations — even for vehicles nearly a decade old, and when no injuries have been reported. The stepped-up posture comes in the wake of strong criticism of the agency over its handling of sudden acceleration complaints in Toyota vehicles.
Source: <http://detnews.com/article/20100913/AUTO01/9130382/1478/rss>

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Defense Industrial Base Sector

11. *September 14, Santa Ynez Valley News* – (National) **3 VAFB launches in month begin this week.** A Minuteman 3 missile test set for September 14 will kick off a busy 10 days with a trio of launches scheduled from Vandenberg Air Force Base near Lompoc, California. Minuteman 3 tests are launched from underground silos on north Vandenberg and can be delayed due to technical troubles on base or downrange. Rather than flying to a typical target near the Kwajalein Atoll in the central Pacific Ocean, the lone re-entry vehicle will take a trip that's about 1,000 miles longer than the usual 4,200 miles. The "extended range" mission will collect data about the weapon's capability as it travels to a target about 200 miles southwest of Guam, officials said. Five days after the Minuteman test, an Atlas 5 rocket is scheduled to carry a National Reconnaissance Office spacecraft to orbit. The mission's September 20 launch window

remains top secret until the lift-off time nears. The third mission planned for this month is a Minotaur 4 rocket carrying the Space Based Space Surveillance craft, with the goal of a September 25 launch. That launch has been delayed from earlier this summer due to rocket-related problems.

Source: <http://www.syvnews.com/articles/2010/09/14/news/valley/news06.txt>

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Banking and Finance Sector

12. *September 14, The Register* – (International) **Crypto weakness leaves online banking apps open to attack.** Flaws in the way Web applications handle encrypted session cookies might leave online banking accounts open to attack. The security risk stems from a cryptographic weakness in Web applications developed using Microsoft's ASP.Net framework. ASP.Net uses the U.S. government-approved AES encryption algorithm to secure the cookies generated by applications during online banking sessions. However, implementation flaws in how ASP.NET handles errors when the encrypted data in a cookie has been modified give clues to a potential attacker that would allow him to narrow down the possible range of the keys used in an online banking session. Attacks based on this weakness might allow a hacker to decrypt sniffed cookies or forge authentications tickets, among other attacks. Two researchers have developed a Padding Oracle Exploit Tool to demonstrate the feasibility of the attack, an extension of their previous research on similar flaws in JavaServer Faces and other Web frameworks.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/14/web_apps_crypto_flaw/

13. *September 13, WCMH 4 Columbus* – (Ohio) **FBI: 'Church Lady Bandit' targets sixth bank.** Authorities are searching for a woman who robbed a bank in Columbus, Ohio September 13. According to the FBI, a woman dubbed the "Church Lady Bandit" entered the Key Bank at 1990 E. Dublin-Granville Road at about 2:07 p.m. and held up a note for a teller to read. The note stated that the woman was robbing the bank and would shoot the teller if he did not give her money. Although no weapon was observed, the teller complied and gave the robber money and a dye-pack from his drawer. The suspect fled the scene and was observed trying to squeeze through a fence at a nearby apartment complex when the dye-pack exploded. She fled around the apartment building in a ball of red smoke. Monday's robbery is the sixth bank the Church Lady Bandit has robbed since 2006.

Source: <http://www2.nbc4i.com/news/2010/sep/13/fbi-church-lady-bandit-targets-sixth-bank-ar-230998/>

14. *September 13, Seer Press News* – (National) **U.S. lacking in credit card fraud protection.** The United States is a technological powerhouse but it is apparently lacking in the area of credit card fraud protection. Meanwhile, other developed countries are moving towards using more secure bank cards featuring extra layers of protection against fraud criminals. A few American banks are discreetly thinking about adopting the new technology for better credit card fraud protection, but are discouraged

by the costs of overhauling point-of-sale terminals utilizing magnetic-stripe cards that have been used by the industry for decades. Canada, Europe, and advanced economies in Asia are adopting new technologies to safeguard transactions and consumer identities, but the United States has not kept pace with them and is becoming increasingly vulnerable. “The U.S. is becoming the most favored nation for credit card fraud,” said a senior analyst with the Aite Group.

Source: <http://seerpress.com/u-s-lacking-in-credit-card-fraud-protection/6711/>

15. *September 13, Canon City Daily Record* – (Colorado) **Sunflower Bank warns of phone scam.** Sunflower Bank alerted customers that fraudulent telephone messages were being sent out to Canon City, Colorado residents that state their debit card has been compromised or suspended. The message asks individuals to press “one” then enter their card number and expiration date. A spokeswoman of Sunflower Bank said the bank began receiving calls September 10 from customers and non-customers, indicating that the calls were targeting Canon City phone numbers. She said the police department has been informed, and if anyone did give out any personal information, they are asked to call their bank immediately. The spokeswoman advised residents to not give out any personal information and if in doubt, hang up and call the bank directly to verify.
Source: <http://www.canoncitydailyrecord.com/region-story.asp?ID=14634>
16. *September 10, DarkReading* – (International) **Newly discovered World Cup database breach exposed 250,000 attendees’ details.** Hundreds of thousands of attendees at the 2006 World Cup international soccer tournament in Germany were put at risk of identity theft, though the major breach of a Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA) database was only recently uncovered. Initially reported by Norwegian newspaper Dagbladet, the breach came to light when an employee of the firm in charge of World Cup 2010 ticketing, circulated an e-mail peddling more than 250,000 2006 World Cup customer details, including such personal information as birth dates and passport information. According to the director of security strategy at database monitoring firm Imperva, the interesting hook to this story is that the customer data in question came from the Germany event 4 years ago and not the South African World Cup this summer. He said the event is indicative of a number of failures, including carelessness with older databases and unused data, a failure to think beyond the conclusion of the event, and a failure to have a full data security protection and destruction strategy. The firm in charge of ticketing and ticketing data at the South African World Cup, Match, a subsidiary of U.K.-based Byrom, was not in charge of ticketing for Germany’s World Cup. It did confirm that it was its own employee who appeared to be responsible for the data’s dissemination. However, it categorically denied the data came from its own database.

Source:

http://www.darkreading.com/database_security/security/attacks/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=227400151&subSection=Attacks/breaches

Transportation Sector

17. *September 14, Associated Press* – (Oregon) **8 injured when bus catches fire on U.S. 101 near Tillamook.** A bus traveling down an Oregon highway September 12 north of Tillamook caught fire, injuring eight people. One victim was taken by helicopter to Legacy Emanuel Hospital in Portland for burn and smoke inhalation injuries, Oregon State Police said. Seven others on board were treated at Tillamook General Hospital for minor injuries and released. The Raz Transportation tour bus carrying 33 passengers was southbound near milepost 64 when its driver saw smoke and flames coming from the front dash area. The driver pulled onto the shoulder and stopped. When the bus door opened, the fire quickly spread inside the bus, police said. The bus occupants fled through an emergency exit.

Source:

http://www.bendbulletin.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20100914/NEWS0107/9140353/1009/NEWS01&nav_category=NEWS01

18. *September 13, The Journal of Commerce* – (National) **With 100 percent screening deadline met, air cargo industry eyes new hurdles.** Air cargo shippers and forwarders said the industry still has a long way to go in screening shipments after meeting a government mandate to screen 100 percent of all cargo on U.S. passenger aircraft by August 1, 2010 according to a report. Industry shipping executives said they fear the growing demand during the fall shipping season will press the limits of screening capabilities in coming months, including the ability to keep up this brisk screening pace integral to the time-sensitive nature of most air shipments. Many pre-implementation concerns, such as the handling of high-value or sensitive items, were alleviated with the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) successful Certified Cargo Screening Program, which has so far authorized 1,041 companies to screen their own cargo. Although the TSA estimates 60 percent of inbound international cargo already is being scanned, an integrated, equivalent, international screening network is the next step in supply chain security, with a target implementation date of 2013.

Source: <http://www.prnewswire.com/news-releases/with-100-percent-screening-deadline-met-air-cargo-industry-eyes-new-hurdles-102793944.html>

19. *September 13, WCCO 4 Minneapolis* – (Minnesota) **Baggage claim reopened after evacuation.** A baggage claim area at the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport was partially evacuated September 13, after officials said three unattended bags were found near Carousel 8. An airport spokesman said the bags were apparently abandoned by a woman who traveled to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania September 13. He said it is not clear why she left them, but noted the lack of official luggage tags with bar codes indicated the bags had not been checked in. The area is now open and fully operational again. The Bloomington Bomb Squad was called in to evaluate the situation and removed the suspicious bags from the scene. Crews evacuated the area between Carousel 7 to 9 briefly while the bomb squad investigated. The partial evacuation did not affect flight operations.

Source: <http://wcco.com/local/minneapolis.airport.evacuation.2.1910555.html>

20. *September 13, Lower Hudson Journal News* – (New York) **Westchester Airport terminal closed briefly by suspicious bag.** Westchester County Airport is back to normal after a the main terminal was closed about 20 minutes this morning when bag screeners flagged a suitcase that seemed suspicious, county officials said. About 10:15 a.m., officers of the federal Transportation Security Administration called the Westchester bomb squad, which found no danger with the suitcase. About 200 people were evacuated from the building, including TSA officers and others working there, as well as passengers. Operations were back to normal before 11 a.m. Passengers saw “very limited” delays because it was a light travel time. Police have not yet said what was in the suitcase.
Source: <http://www.lohud.com/article/20100913/NEWS02/9130365/-1/newsfront/Westchester-Airport-terminal-closed-briefly-by-suspicious-bag>
21. *September 13, CNN* – (Nevada) **FBI investigates comment on flight from Las Vegas.** The FBI interviewed two passengers after a reported threat to a plane that landed in Las Vegas, Nevada, but neither of them have been charged. An FBI Special Agent said September 12 that a man and a woman had been interviewed but were not in custody. “No one has been charged with any crime in relation to this incident,” he said. The FBI’s investigation surrounds an alleged incident aboard a US Airways flight that landed at McCarran International Airport in Las Vegas on the evening of September 11, police in Las Vegas said. A spokeswoman for the Transportation Security Administration, said the agency became aware of a mechanical issue on US Airways Flight 399 from Las Vegas to Phoenix about 8:15 p.m. ET. “The flight landed safely and during taxi, a passenger allegedly made an inappropriate comment,” the spokesman said.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2010/TRAVEL/09/13/nevada.flight.incident/>

For more stories, see items [1](#), [2](#), [4](#), and [26](#)

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Postal and Shipping Sector

22. *September 11, PoconoNews.net* – (Pennsylvania) **More arrests possible in mailbox vandalism.** Two suspects are already in custody in a recent string of mailbox attacks in Pike County, Pennsylvania, and police said the investigation is continuing. Two males, both 18, were arrested September 9, in Milford, and an SUV, believed used by the teens, was impounded. Both are suspected in the destruction of mailboxes on Cummins Hill Road. Dozens of other mailbox attacks have been reported, in recent days, in other parts of Pike County, including Dingman and Shohola townships. Some of the boxes were smashed. Others were blown up.
Source: <http://www.pocononews.net/news/2010/September/11/11Sep10-3.html>

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Agriculture and Food Sector

23. *September 14, New Orleans Times-Picayune* – (Louisiana) **Huge fish kill reported in Plaquemines Parish.** Plaquemines Parish officials in Louisiana have asked state wildlife officials to investigate a massive fish kill they believe occurred September 10 at Bayou Chaland on the west side of the Mississippi River. Photographs the parish distributed of the area show an enormous amount of dead fish floating atop the water. The fish kill was reported to the Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries and the cause has not yet been determined, the parish said. The fish were found in an area that has been impacted by the oil from the BP oil spill, the parish said. The dead fish include pogies, redfish, drum, crabs, shrimp and freshwater eel, the parish said. The president of Plaquemines Parish said he has asked Wildlife & Fisheries for a quick determination of the cause. The parish has also requested testing by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. “We can’t continue to see these fish kills,” he said in a news release. “We need some additional tests to find out why these fish are dying in large numbers. If it is low oxygen, we need to identify the cause.” A recent fish kill in nearby St. Bernard Parish was attributed to low oxygen levels in the water.
Source: http://www.nola.com/news/index.ssf/2010/09/huge_fish_kill_reported_in_pla.html
24. *September 14, Muncie Star Press* – (Indiana) **200,000 gallons of manure sprayed before Randolph County fish kill.** Indiana state officials say a major fish kill near Winchester in June was the result of a Randolph County pork producer spraying 200,000 gallons of hog manure onto a field upstream of the kill. More than 106,000 fish died in Bear Creek and the Mississinewa River the weekend of June 19-20. Indiana Department of Environmental Management (IDEM) inspectors accuse the man of an unpermitted discharge of manure, not reporting the spill, not managing the spill, and over-applying the manure to a 50-acre field. The pork producer, who grows finishing hogs for North Carolina-based Maxwell Foods, has hired environmental consultants who said it is impossible for the manure to have killed the fish. IDEM inspectors turned over investigation paperwork to the agency’s enforcement section for action, including a possible civil penalty.
Source: <http://www.thestarpress.com/article/20100914/NEWS01/9140316/200-000-gallons-of-manure-sprayed-before-Randolph-County-fish-kill>
25. *September 14, WNEM 5 Saginaw* – (Michigan) **Flint restaurant firebombed for second time.** For the second time in one week, Atlas Coney Island, a restaurant in Flint, Michigan, has been firebombed. According to an employee, two Molotov cocktails were thrown at the restaurant September 13. One of them exploded, causing a small fire outside of the building, and the other firebomb landed on top of the roof. Police said the attack caused minor damage to the restaurant and nobody was injured. Employees said the restaurant was hit earlier in the week by similar firebombs. Arson investigators were at the eatery overnight speaking with employees. No arrests have been made in either incident.
Source: <http://www.wnem.com/news/25000764/detail.html>

26. *September 14, Reuters* – (Ohio) **Maumee River remains closed near Toledo.** The Maumee River near Toledo, Ohio, remained shut to boat traffic early September 14 due to a fire at an adjacent Archer Daniels Midland Co (ADM.N) grain storage bin, the U.S. Coast guard said. The fire, which started September 13, was still burning and fire crews were expected to be on the scene throughout the day, a spokeswoman for the City of Toledo said. The Maumee River, which runs behind the grain elevator, is currently closed between Interstate 75 and the Conrail Bridge as a precaution in case the structure collapses. A Coast Guard spokesman declined to estimate when that stretch of river will reopen. Toledo is a key delivery point along the Great Lakes region for the soft red winter wheat that grows primarily in the eastern U.S. Midwest. The grain elevator also stores corn and soybeans. The neighborhood around the elevator had been evacuated September 13, but residents and employees of businesses in the area were allowed to return later that night.

Source: <http://www.reuters.com/article/idUSN1425227220100914>

27. *September 13, U.S. Department of Agriculture* – (International; National) **Corned, shredded beef sold in Pennsylvania recalled.** Sampco, Inc., of Chicago, Illinois, is recalling approximately 258,000 pounds of cooked beef products that were imported from an ineligible Brazilian establishment, the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Food Safety and Inspection Service (FSIS) announced September 13. Brazilian establishment SIF 337 was delisted on May 6, 2010 after repeat violative levels of the animal drug Ivermectin were confirmed in its products. FSIS has recently determined that eight lots of product from Brazilian establishment SIF 337 have been shipped into commerce despite the firm's ineligible status. As a result, FSIS and Sampco, Inc. are taking action to remove the products from commerce. Consumers who have purchased any of these products should return them to their point of purchase.

Source:

<http://pottsmmerc.com/articles/2010/09/14/news/doc4c8f7b1d5210c760623814.txt>

28. *September 13, Detroit Free Press* – (Michigan) **Wyandotte store evacuated after artillery shell found.** The Sav-A-Lot food store in Wyandotte, Michigan, was evacuated September 13 after an employee discovered an artillery shell left inside a shopping cart and promptly wheeled it outside. Wyandotte Police responded to the scene at 3901 Fort St. and notified the Michigan State Police bomb squad who advised that the building and parking lot be evacuated. A spokesman for the Wyandotte Police Department said Michigan State Police have X-rayed the shell to determine if it was live. The results have not been released.

Source: <http://www.freep.com/article/20100913/NEWS02/100913068/Wyandotte-store-evacuated-after-artillery-shell-found>

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Water Sector

29. *September 13, Water Technology Online* – (National) **Black & Veatch survey provides insights on stormwater infrastructure investments.** A knowledge resource

for stormwater utilities that includes elements of how to address combined sewer overflows and data related to billing consumers was released September 13. The results of Black & Veatch's eighth Stormwater Utility Survey comes at a time when utilities and local governments wrestle with numerous pressures including climate change, aging infrastructure, water quality and access to capital. A key finding of the survey shows that 47 percent of participants believe funding for their respective stormwater utility only meets the utility's most urgent needs, and 10 percent stated that funding was not sufficient to meet their most urgent needs. Twenty-one percent of survey respondents indicated their utility is dealing with combined sewer overflow challenges. Of these respondents, only one-third currently recover costs associated with combined sewer overflow reduction in their stormwater user fee. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency estimates that more than 770 cities and town across the country have combined sewer systems.

Source: http://www.watertechnonline.com/news.asp?N_ID=74897

30. *September 13, Austin American-Statesman* – (Texas) **Deluge highlights vulnerability of Austin's water, wastewater systems.** Last week's deluge underscored the vulnerability of the Austin, Texas water and wastewater systems, despite hundreds of millions spent on upgrades in recent years. Two water treatment plants were temporarily downed by power outages, and seven lift stations, which pump sewage uphill, overflowed. Despite the outages and spills, the city said it maintained adequate water and wastewater services throughout the storm. Electrical issues plagued the seven lift stations where pumps faltered, leading to the overflow of 444,000 gallons of sewage. There are nearly 120 lift stations across Austin. Residents by Bull Creek where lift failures led to the overflow of at least 180,000 gallons of sewage September 1, said they should have been better notified about the spill. City workers said they took proper steps to notify residents, and that sewage was so diluted as to not be a threat. Heavy rainfall was "disruptive" to water and sewage treatment elsewhere in central Texas, according to the director of the Austin region of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality. A Georgetown wastewater treatment plant shut down much of September 8 after losing power, and another plant operated by the Brazos River Authority also was temporarily shut down. Dozens of flood control projects have significantly reduced the impact of intense rainstorms — few homes and businesses flooded last week, city officials said.

Source: <http://www.statesman.com/news/local/deluge-highlights-vulnerability-of-austins-water-wastewater-systems-914383.html>

31. *September 13, Asbury Park Press* – (National) **Perchlorate, used in rocket fuel, limited in some states.** While the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has yet to set a limit on perchlorate in drinking water, California and Massachusetts have adopted standards while New Jersey delayed approving one, according to a U.S. Government Accountability Office report. California adopted a drinking water standard of 6 parts per billion (ppb) for perchlorate in 2007, and Massachusetts set one of 2 ppb in 2006, according to the report, released September 13. The key benefits of a regulatory standard cited by state officials include protecting public health and facilitating clean-up enforcement. "New Jersey proposed a drinking water standard of 5

parts per billion in 2009, but the state's newly appointed Commissioner of the Department of Environmental Protection decided in March 2010 to delay adopting a standard until EPA made its regulatory determination, and New Jersey's proposed rule has lapsed."

Source: <http://blogs.app.com/enviroguy/2010/09/13/perchlorate-used-in-rocket-fuel-limited-in-some-states/>

32. *September 13, KVII 7 Amarillo* – (Texas) **Water main break causing some detours.** Water pressure around 34th and Bowie in Amarillo, Texas is back to normal, but the September 11 water main break caused a street closure. By the next afternoon, the City of Amarillo Utility Division responded and completed immediate repairs to approximately 12 feet of pipe. Other utilities such as telephone lines were also affected. The water system is now back to normal operation. City officials say the break happened September 11 causing 2.5 million gallons of water to spill. The erosion caused by the main break undermined the road damaging the entire width of 34th Avenue. Repairs are ongoing. Officials said 34th Avenue would remain closed throughout the week to complete repairs to the road and telephone lines.

Source: <http://www.connectamarillo.com/news/story.aspx?id=510746>

For another story, see item [7](#)

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Public Health and Healthcare Sector

33. *September 14, Associated Press* – (International) **New drug-resistant superbugs found in 3 states.** Bacteria that have been made resistant to nearly all antibiotics by an alarming new gene have sickened people in three states, and are popping up all over the world, health officials reported September 13. The U.S. cases and two others in Canada all involve people who had recently received medical care in India, where the problem is widespread. A British medical journal revealed the risk in August in an article describing dozens of cases in Britain in people who had gone to India for medical procedures. How many deaths the gene may have caused is unknown; there is no central tracking of such cases. So far, the gene has mostly been found in bacteria that cause gut or urinary infections. Scientists have long feared this — a very adaptable gene that hitches onto many types of common germs and confers broad drug resistance, creating dangerous "superbugs."

Source: <http://www.foxnews.com/health/2010/09/14/update-new-drug-resistant-superbugs-states/>

34. *September 13, Press of Atlantic City* – (New Jersey) **Leaking X-ray machine faulted in last week's evacuation of Vineland office.** Authorities have determined that bromide leaking from a former X-ray-processing device forced the September 8 evacuation of a medical office building on the site of the former Newcomb Hospital complex in Vineland, New Jersey. Bromide is used to sanitize water during the development process, said a captain of the Vineland Fire Department. Authorities said

the leak occurred at a part of the building the hospital used in connection with X-ray processing. The bromide leaked from a machine that had been “sitting derelict” for some time. The leaking material has been cleaned up and employees are working in the building with no problems, authorities said.

Source: http://www.pressofatlanticcity.com/news/press/cumberland/article_ad8677fc-bf70-11df-b288-001cc4c03286.html

35. *September 13, Fort Wayne Journal Gazette* – (Indiana) **Cameron Woods evacuated in carbon monoxide emergency.** On September 13, 2010, Cameron Woods Senior Living Community in Angola, Indiana experienced high levels of carbon monoxide causing an evacuation. Carbon monoxide detectors sounded and the Angola Fire Department was immediately notified. Staff at Cameron Woods worked in conjunction with fire department staff to immediately evacuate the building. All residents were moved to the back lawn, as far away from the building as possible. There were no injuries or transports to Cameron Memorial Community Hospital for residents or staff. All residents received medical monitoring by the EMS, and were made comfortable by the Cameron Woods staff, who also notified all residents’ families.

Source: <http://www.journalgazette.net/article/20100913/BLOGS01/100919817>

36. *September 10, Computerworld* – (California) **Hospital appeals \$250,000 fine for late breach disclosure.** The Lucile Packard Children’s Hospital at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California is appealing a \$250,000 fine imposed by the California Department of Public Health (CDPH) for its alleged delay in reporting a January 2010 data breach that exposed confidential patient data. In a September 9 statement, the hospital contended it had reported the breach in accordance with requirements. “We are appealing the timeline,” a hospital spokesman said September 10. He added that the breach was self-reported by the hospital to CDPH. The fine was levied in April under a state statute passed in 2008 that allows state agencies to, among other things, penalize organizations that fail to report data breaches as required by the state.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9184679/Hospital_appeals_250_000_fine_for_late_breach_disclosure

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Government Facilities Sector

37. *September 14, KGW 8 Portland* – (Oregon) **Blast & fire destroys City Hall in Mill City.** The city hall building in Mill City, Oregon, was nearly burned to the ground September 13 and now investigators believe it was the work of an arsonist. A detective with the Linn County Sheriff’s Office told KGW September 14 that the fire appeared to be an arson. The city hall, a converted three-bedroom, wood-frame house, was engulfed in flames when the call came in at 8:02 p.m. to the Mill City Volunteer Fire Department. Officials are investigating whether there was an explosion inside the building. A woman walking by when the fire started was injured by flying glass and had to be transported to Salem Hospital.

Source: <http://www.kgw.com/news/local/Blast-fire-destroys-Mill-City-city-hall-102871499.html>

38. *September 13, Boston Herald* – (Massachusetts) **Northeastern to review hazmat protocol after suspected cyanide suicide.** Northeastern University officials in Boston, Massachusetts said September 13 they are launching a review of protocols for handling hazardous materials in the wake of the suspected suicide by cyanide of a researcher found dead September 12 in her Milford, Massachusetts, home. The researcher, 30, a Northeastern graduate student and member of the Class of 2005, was found in her bedroom, where authorities located a bag of material labeled cyanide, said Milford's police chief. Police are probing whether the researcher smuggled the cyanide from Northeastern. "Although the University has protocols surrounding the use of hazardous materials, I am calling for an extensive review of these protocols," the Northeastern President said in a statement. The president said he asked the university's vice provost for research and a former Department of Homeland Security official, to conduct the review.
Source: http://www.bostonherald.com/news/regional/view/20100913northeastern_to_review_hazmat_protocol_after_suspected_cyanide_suicide/
39. *September 13, CNN* – (District of Columbia) **Police briefly evacuate House chamber.** Law enforcement officials briefly evacuated the area around the House of Representatives chamber in Washington D.C. September 13 after the discovery of a powdery substance, according to a spokeswoman for the Capitol Hill police. The area evacuated included both the House press galleries and the galleries used by tourists to watch congressional floor deliberations. The galleries were evacuated out of "an abundance of caution" while authorities investigated the incident, a spokeswoman said. Capitol Hill police later confirmed, however, that authorities had deemed the area safe, and that congressional staff and members of the media had been allowed to return. House members were scheduled to return from their summer recess at 2 p.m. September 14.
Source: <http://www.cnn.com/2010/US/09/13/house.chamber.evacuation/>
40. *September 11, Hagerstown Herald-Mail* – (Pennsylvania) **Death threat against White House official found in Antrim Twp.** Police have notified the FBI and Secret Service about a death threat against the White House press secretary that was found on a restroom door at the Interstate 81 welcome center in Antrim Township, Pennsylvania, a Pennsylvania state police spokesman said September 11. The vandalism was reported September 9 at the I-81 northbound welcome center just north of the Maryland/Pennsylvania state line, the spokesman said. According to a state police press release, the threat to assassinate the White House press secretary was written on the door of the women's restroom. The message was signed, but the last name could not be made out, troopers said. The spokesman said police talked to an FBI agent from Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, about the vandalism and the agent said it would be referred to the Secret Service as a precaution.

Source: http://www.herald-mail.com/?cmd=displaystory&story_id=252665&format=html

41. *September 10, Agence France-Presse* – (International) **WikiLeaks to release cache of Iraq war documents: Newsweek.** Whistleblower Web site WikiLeaks is teaming up with news outlets to release a “massive cache” of classified U.S. military field reports on the conflict in Iraq, Newsweek magazine reported September 10. Newsweek quoted the editor of The Bureau of Investigative Journalism, a London-based journalism nonprofit, as saying the material constitutes the “biggest leak of military intelligence” ever. Newsweek said the stash of Iraq documents held by WikiLeaks is believed to be about three times as large as the number of U.S. military field reports on Afghanistan released earlier this year by WikiLeaks. WikiLeaks, in collaboration with The New York Times, Britain’s Guardian and Der Spiegel of Germany, published 77,000 Afghan war documents in July, and has said it will release another 15,000 related documents soon. The editor told Newsweek that his organization was working with WikiLeaks and television and print media in several countries on stories and programs based on the Iraq documents. He declined to identify the news organizations involved, but said they would release the material simultaneously several weeks from now.

Source:

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/afp/article/ALeqM5jq2VtzgXpasjVDUDOBkdln6W8CyA>

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Emergency Services Sector

42. *September 11, Associated Press* – (International) **85 inmates escape Mexican prison near Texas.** A prison in a border state that already had a history of escapes suffered still another — perhaps the largest ever in Mexico — September 10 when 85 inmates used ladders to scale the 20-foot-tall walls and then disappeared. The Tamaulipas State public safety secretary said 66 of the inmates had been convicted of, or were on trial for, federal charges, like weapons possession or drugs. The others were convicted or accused of lesser offenses. He said 44 guards and employees of the prison, in the city of Reynosa, next to McAllen, Texas, were under investigation. “The guards evidently helped in the escape,” he said. So far this year, 201 inmates have escaped from prisons in Tamaulipas. Less than 2 weeks earlier, 40 inmates escaped from a prison in Matamoros, a Tamaulipas city across the border from Brownsville, Texas.

Source: http://www.nytimes.com/2010/09/12/world/americas/12Mexico.html?_r=1

43. *September 10, Jamestown Sun* – (North Dakota) **North Dakota, South Dakota Guard to participate in exercise with civilian responders.** The North Dakota National Guard’s 81st Civil Support Team and South Dakota’s 82nd CST will participate in a multi-agency emergency response exercise with civilian responders at Camp Grafton Training Center, Devils Lake, North Dakota from September 13-17. The exercise will incorporate a variety of training scenarios designed to test security on Camp Grafton and the collective agencies’ ability to respond to a chemical, biological, radiological,

nuclear or high yield explosive incident. Civilian agencies participating in the exercise include the Devils Lake Fire Department, Grand Forks Fire Department, and Devils Lake Police Department. The North Dakota Air National Guard's 119th Emergency Management Flight will also take part in the exercise. North Dakota Army National Guard's 136th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion will support Roads Acting as Dams operations in another planned emergency response scenario.

Source: <http://www.jamestownsun.com/event/article/id/119004/group/News/>

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Information Technology Sector

44. *September 14, Help Net Security* – (International) **Global botnet offering DDoS services.** Damballa discovered a botnet that offers pay-for-delivery DDoS attacks. The IMDDOS botnet, named after the commercial name on the botnet Web site, has grown to one of the largest active global botnets in less than 4 months from initial testing. The infected hosts used in the DDoS attacks have become unwitting participants in the botnet and are widespread. The vast majority of infected hosts are in China, with the United States being in the top 10 countries affected. ISPs worldwide were affected, including the majority of North American ISPs, and a number of major corporate networks are hosting bot agents for the IMDDOS botnet. The IMDDOS botnet offers a commercial service for delivering DDoS attacks against any desired target. Hosted in China, this publicly available service is available for lease to anyone willing to establish an online account, input the domain(s) they wish to attack, and pay for the service. Throughout the Damballa period of study, the botnet grew very quickly. Following testing by the criminal operators in April 2010, it reached a production peak of activity with 25,000 unique Recursive DNS (RDNS) lookups per hour attempting to resolve to the botnet's command-and-control (CnC) servers.

Source: <http://www.net-security.org/secworld.php?id=9864>

45. *September 14, Computerworld* – (International) **Researchers clash over possible return of Google attackers.** Researchers September 13 clashed over whether recent attacks that exploit a bug in Adobe Reader are the work of the group that hacked Google and dozens of other major corporations late last year. On one side, Mountain View, Calif.-based antivirus giant Symantec, whose security analysts said they have found evidence suggesting the group which wormed its way into Google's corporate network in December 2009 is back in business. On the other, Atlanta's much smaller SecureWorks, where a researcher said Symantec had "comingled" evidence of two separate attacks. At issue were recent PDF-based exploits attached to messages touting a renowned golf swing coach that have exploited an unpatched bug in Adobe's popular Reader PDF viewer. Security experts have called that exploit "scary" and "clever" for the way it sidesteps critical Windows defenses designed to isolate malicious code and make it harder to execute malware. Those attacks went public last week, when a independent security researcher reported the flaw to Adobe, then published her preliminary findings. Adobe issued a security warning, and September 13 announced it would patch the problem early next month.

Source:

http://www.computerworld.com/s/article/9185281/Researchers_clash_over_possible_return_of_Google_attackers

46. *September 13, The Register* – (International) **Critical Flash vuln under active attack, Adobe warns.** On September 13, Adobe Systems warned of a critical vulnerability in the most recent version of its Flash Player that is being actively exploited in the wild. The vulnerability affects Flash Player 10.1.82.76 for Windows, Macintosh, Linux, Solaris, and Android operating systems, Adobe said in an advisory. “There are reports that this vulnerability is being actively exploited in the wild against Adobe Flash Player on Windows,” the warning said, without elaborating. The latest versions of Adobe’s Reader and Acrobat applications are vulnerable to the same flaw, but there is no evidence they are being exploited. The advisory credited a researcher of the Shadowserver Foundation for working with Adobe’s security team on the vulnerability. The disclosure means there are at least two unpatched flaws in widely used Adobe applications presently under attack.

Source: http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/09/13/adobe_flash_0day_vuln/

47. *September 13, TrendLabs Malware Blog* – (International) **Mehika Twitter botnet targets Twitter users.** Leveraging social networking sites to gain control of user systems, and to make them part of botnets is no longer a new tactic. In recent research, TrendLabs came across malware that uses a Twitter account to send out commands to the new Mehika Twitter botnet’s zombies. But why are cybercriminals using a social networking site to send out commands to botnet zombies? The answer is simple. Using a social networking site does not require installation, configuration, and command-and-control (C&C) server management. Instead, posting messages in a specific account can instantly send out commands and instructions to zombies. Also, because social networking sites have thousands or even millions of user profiles, locating a suspicious account is difficult.

Source: <http://blog.trendmicro.com/mehika-twitter-botnet-targets-twitter-users/>

For another story, see item [12](#)

Internet Alert Dashboard

To report cyber infrastructure incidents or to request information, please contact US-CERT at sos@us-cert.gov or visit their Web site: <http://www.us-cert.gov>

Information on IT information sharing and analysis can be found at the IT ISAC (Information Sharing and Analysis Center) Web site: <https://www.it-isac.org>

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Communications Sector

48. *September 14, Chico Enterprise-Record* – (California) **Chico Christian radio station reports huge copper wire theft.** Local Christian Talk radio station KKXX, with

offices in Chico, California, has reported the theft of a large quantity of copper wire being used to ground its transmitter on the Paradise ridge. It is the second such loss suffered by the station in 2 years. After the radio station lost its mobile studio in the Humboldt Fire 2 years ago, thieves struck and stole 120 copper grounding wires, each about 250 feet in length. The radio station September 13 learned copper wire thieves had hit them again, this time taking about 22,000 feet of No. 10 wire, which was apparently bundled into lengths of 10 to 20 feet. The manager said the station was never knocked off the air. "They apparently knew what they were doing," he said. "They left just enough wire to allow us to broadcast." He noted thieves avoided a locked gate by taking a back road to the antenna. After the first theft in 2008, he said wires were replaced and a concrete footing was poured about every 10 to 15 feet along the length of the wire in hopes of discouraging future thefts. "They just cut the wires between the concrete and bundled it up," he said. The theft was reported to the Butte County Sheriff's Office. The wire is estimated to be worth between 20 and 30 cents per foot.

Source: http://www.chicoer.com/news/ci_16069054

49. *September 13, Wilmington Star-News* – (North Carolina) **Time Warner Cable Road Runner customers' e-mail service troubled.** Residential customers of Time Warner Road Runner Internet service lost e-mail service over the weekend, but service has been restored, a Time Warner Cable spokeswoman in Wilmington, North Carolina, said September 13. The outage occurred September 11 and was repaired by 11 p.m. September 12, a communications manager for the coastal region and Fayetteville said. However, some customers in the Wilmington area said they were still without service early September 13.

Source:

<http://www.starnewsonline.com/article/20100913/ARTICLES/100919863/1004?Title=Road-Runner-customers-e-mail-service-restored&tc=ar>

50. *September 13, Austin American-Statesman* – (Texas) **Phone service restored to northwestern Williamson County AT&T customers.** Phone service to parts of northwestern Williamson County, Texas, was down September 13 because of a fiber optics line that was cut between Leander and Burnet, according to a press release. The service outage also affected parts of Burnet and Lampasas counties, a Williamson County spokeswoman said. An AT&T spokesman said the line was cut around 1:30 p.m., and he expected service to be restored around 6 p.m. As of 4:30 p.m. September 13, service was restored to those customers, an AT&T spokesman said.

Source: http://www.statesman.com/blogs/content/shared-gen/blogs/austin/williamson/entries/2010/09/13/parts_of_northwestern_williams.html

For another story, see item [32](#)

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Commercial Facilities Sector

51. *September 14, WMTV 15 Madison* – (Wisconsin) **Fort Atkinson business evacuated; acid spill.** At 5:20 a.m. September 14, 200 gallons of phosphoric acid spilled at the Spacesaver facility, 1700 Farmco Lane in Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin. According to the Fort Atkinson Fire Department, five people were transported to the hospital as a precaution. Their conditions were not known. A witness said the building was evacuated for emergency crew. Also, Farmco Lane was closed. Crews from Jefferson County Hazmat, Fort Atkinson Fire Department, Johnson Creek Fire Department, and Lake Mills Fire Department responded.
Source: <http://www.nbc15.com/news/headlines/102858794.html>
52. *September 13, Long Beach Press-Telegram* – (California) **Molotov cocktails thrown at North Long Beach duplex.** Two Molotov cocktails were thrown at a Long Beach, California, duplex September 13, and arson detectives were investigating the attacks. One of the attacks damaged a Nissan sedan. The first Molotov cocktail had been thrown 2 hours before firefighters were called. The damaged car was parked 10 feet from the home, and a resident and bystander kept flames from extending to the structure. No motive for the attacks was known.
Source: http://www.presstelegram.com/news/ci_16067259
53. *September 13, WJXT 4 Jacksonville* – (Florida) **Camper ‘making diamonds’ prompts evacuation.** Campers spending the weekend at Whitey’s Fish Camp in Fleming Island, Florida, were evacuated September 12 when toxic fumes started spreading from a trailer. According to the Clay County Sheriff’s Office, the 34-year-old who lives in his trailer at the camp site, was mixing chemicals that produced the toxic fumes. Deputies responded to a report of a possible gas leak just after 8 p.m. After first ruling out that the gas was coming from the restaurant, deputies and Whitey’s employees began to search the property. One deputy reported finding a trailer with the door open and a pressurized cylinder in plain view. According to incident report, the man was inside the trailer “cooking various hazardous chemicals,” including acetone, liquid sulfur and other substances. The area was evacuated while Clay County Fire-Rescue’s hazardous materials team was called to neutralize the mixture. Authorities said that when they questioned the man, he said, “I am trying to make diamonds,” and “If I can’t do it here, I’ll do it in the woods nearby.” Deputies said that while his actions were not illegal, he posed a serious threat to himself and the people around him and he was taken into custody for a medical evacuation. A Clay County Sheriff’s Office spokeswoman said the man is also a registered convicted felon.
Source: <http://www.news4jax.com/news/24989054/detail.html>

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National Monuments and Icons Sector

54. *September 13, Staten Island Advance* – (New York) **Great Kills Park reopens after rash of brush fires.** Great Kills Park in Staten Island, New York, reopened September 13 after more than 250 firefighters fought a series of stubborn brush fires that burned approximately 145 acres of parkland since the week of September 6. Visitors were able

to access the marina, boat ramp, beach center and Crooke's Point, all via Bulkhead Road over the weekend, but the main entrance and multi-use paths for bicyclists remained closed until September 13 as firefighters extinguished remaining hot spots. A New York City Police Department (NYPD) aviation aircraft flew over the site with an infrared camera to detect remaining hot spots September 12. National Park Service fire crews will remain on the scene throughout the week to monitor the area. Extensive areas of grasslands were burned, and an office trailer in the park's maintenance area was scorched by the six-alarm fire. Wooden docks were also burned. The majority of the fire burned grassland areas, along with some shrublands and forested sections. More than 250 firefighters from Staten Island and Brooklyn worked with National Park Service units from around the country, the NYPD, the U.S. Forest Service and United States Park Police to fight the blaze.

Source:

http://www.silive.com/southshore/index.ssf/2010/09/great_kills_park_reopens_after.html

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Dams Sector

55. *September 11, McAllen Monitor* – (Texas) **Hurricane Alex's effect shows need for second Valley drainage canal.** Soaked portions of eastern Hidalgo County, Texas, lost an automatic method to dry out once Hurricane Alex's heaviest rains passed. The series of drainage ditches that traverse the Mid-Valley tie into the International Boundary and Water Commission's floodway system that eventually empties into the Gulf of Mexico. The commission closed off the gates that feed into the floodway as it prepared for a wall of water to rush down the Rio Grande. As it did so, it also closed off relief for homes flooded due to an inadequate drainage system. Crews had to pump water over the floodway levees to get it out of the county. Alex and other recent events underscore the need for another path for drainage to the Laguna Madre. Yet the proposed Raymondville Drain project, which would convey floodwaters from the densely populated North McAllen and Edinburg areas to an outfall in Willacy County, has remained stalled due to lack of federal funds. However, that may change as the county could soon receive \$3.7 million to complete the environmental studies and plans needed to start work on the drain, a 67-mile canal that would run from Edinburg Lake and discharge near Port Mansfield. If the funding is approved by the Texas Water Development Board at its meeting this month, the county could start work within 18 months.

Source: <http://www.themonitor.com/articles/edinburg-42668-valley-effect.html>

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